

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

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CU-02 SSC-01 PC-01 /063 W
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R 091115Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1683

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 1492

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, AF

SUBJ: MORE CHANGES IN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

REF: KABUL 0937

1. SUMMARY: SECOND ROUND OF PERSONNEL CHANGES WITHIN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (FIRST REPORTED REFTEL) WAS ANNOUNCED MARCH 4. GHULAM SEDDIQ MOHEBI IS NEW RECTOR OF KABUL UNIVERSITY, WAFIULLAH SAMAYEE APPOINTED SECOND DEPUTY MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, AND MOHD HASHIM RAHIMI IS NEW PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL DIRECTORATE OF FUNCTIONAL LITERACY AND ADULT EDUCATION. CHANGES DO NOT SEEM POLITICAL IN NARROW SENSE, BUT ANOTHER INDICATION OF SERIOUS GOA INTENT TO STAFF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION WITH RELATIVELY YOUNG, COMPETENT AND NON-IDEOLOGICAL EXECUTIVES COMMITTED TO NEW EDUCATIONAL REFORM. END SUMMARY.

2. RADIO AFGHANISTAN MARCH 4. ANNOUNCED 3 NEW APPOINTMENTS IN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION: GHULAM SEDDIQ MOHEBI IS NEW RECTOR OF KABUL UNIVERSITY (K.U.); WAFIULLAH SAMAYEE APPOINTED SECOND DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION; AND MOHD. HASHIM RAHIMI APPOINTED PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL DIRECTORATE OF
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FUNCTIONAL LITERACY AND ADULT EDUCATION (CAMPAIGN AGAINST

ILLITERACY).

3. RECTOR MOHEBI IS 45, MARRIED, AND HAS A SOVIET PHD IN SCIENCE. MOHEBI IS ON BAD TERMS WITH FORMER RECTOR HAIDER WHO, REPORTEDLY, DID HIS BEST TO OUST MOHEBI FROM KU. AT TIME OF HAIDER'S APPOINTMENT AS RECTOR, MOHEBI WAS VICE RECTOR (FOR BUSINESS AFFAIRS), BUT WAS SUCCESSIVELY DEMOTED TO PRESIDENT OF POLYTECHNIC, THEN TO ORDINARY PROFESSOR OF SCIENCE. MOHEBI HAS WORKED WELL WITH AID COUNTER-PARTS IN THE PAST, HAS REPUTATION FOR HARD WORK AND COMMON SENSE, AND IS RELATIVELY NON-IDEOLOGICAL. HE WAS ACTIVE ON PLANNING COMMITTEE FOR FIVE YEAR PLAN FOR KU AND IS NOW IN POSITION TO OVERSEE ITS IMPLEMENTATION.

4. PRIOR TO APPOINTMENT AS SECOND DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION (ADMINISTRATIVE), SAMAYEE WAS DEAN OF FACULTY OF THEOLOGY AT K.U. AT TIME OF HAIDER'S APPOINTMENT AS RECTOR OF K.M.U., HE WAS VICE RECTOR FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS, HE IS MARRIED AND IN EARLY FORTIES. SAMAYEE'S POSITION WAS ONLY ONE OF THREE NEW APPOINTMENTS THAT WAS OCCUPIED AT TIME OF ANNOUNCEMENT. HOWEVER, FORMER 2ND DEPUTY, MOHD NASIM, WAS CLOSE TO RETIREMENT AND SEEKING JOB WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

5. HASHEM RAHIMI IS MARRIED, IN MID-FORTIES, AND HAS COLUMBIA MA. HE WAS CHIEF EDITOR FOR CURRICULUM AND TEXT BOOK PROJECT AT TIME OF APPOINTMENT AND HAD JUST RETURNED FROM 5-MONTH NONADEGREE PROGRAM UNDER AID AUSPICES AT COLUMBIA UNIV IN LATE JANUARY.

6. COMMENT: LIKE FIRST ROUND OF CHANGES REPORTED REFTEL, NEW APPOINTMENTS DO NOT SEEM "POLITICAL" IN NARROW SENSE, BUT RATHER APPOINTMENT OF COMPETENT RELATIVELY YOUNG MEN TO CARRY OUT EDUCATIONAL GOALS OF GOA WHICH, WE BELIEVE, HAVE CONTINUING PERSONAL INTEREST OF PRESIDENT DAOUD. ELIOT

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